

12-3-2012

## Iowa State Daily (12-03-2012)

Iowa State Daily

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OPINION

Celebrate spirit of holiday season



STYLE

Look great in a limited time



SPORTS

Cyclones fight on to Sweet 16

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WEATHER:

MON 31|61

TUES 28|54

WED 37|47

Provided by ISU Meteorology Club

EVENT:

Debate over activity fees to be held

Student activities fees have always been a topic of discussion at Iowa State. Whether or not these mandatory fees should be abolished will be the premise of a student debate Monday. These include fees such as: activity, service, health and recreation fees. The debate will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Campanile Room of the Memorial Union. This event is sponsored by the Government of the Student Body and the speech communications program and is free to attend.

-By Daily staff

INSIDE:

News	2
Opinion	4
Sports	5
Style	7
Classifieds	8
Games	9

Travel



Photo: Huiling Wu/Iowa State Daily

Changes in the rules governing the use of university vehicles will soon impact the way campus organizations travel. The new rule says that a university employee must travel with any organization using an official vehicle.

New guidelines to change travel

By Charles.O'Brien  
@iowastatedaily.com

The way ISU student organizations can travel is changing this semester with the Office of Risk Management making alterations to their guidelines on how students can qualify for the use of university vehicles.

The new guideline changes suggest that student organizations that are traveling to competitions, conferences or other functions and are using university vehicles to travel must have a university employee travel with the organization in or-

der to qualify for usage of university vehicles.

Prior to this guideline change, organizations were not required to have a university employee travel with a group.

According to Director of Risk Management Deborah Sunstrom, there were no changes made to the Student Organization Policy, only some practices which had been changed.

Under the Authorized Travel policy on the Office of Risk Management's website, it states: "All travel by recognized student organizations must relate to the purpose of

the organization and comply with the policies of the state of Iowa; the Board of Regents, State of Iowa; and Iowa State University."

Government of the Student Body President Jared Knight says that liability changes are driving the changes.

Knight also stated the university and the attorney general's office of Iowa no longer consider most student organizations closely tied to the mission and business of the university.

"The move comes out of concern

VEHICLES.p10 >>

Football



ISU to play in Liberty Bowl in Memphis

By Jake.Calhoun  
@iowastatedaily.com

Paul Rhoads will need to pack his bowling shoes again.

On Sunday night, the fourth-year coach of ISU football officially lauded the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tenn., as the prime postseason destination for his team after a 6-6 campaign that saw just three conference wins.

"The reward of college football is the postseason, and when I got a chance to share it with our kids, they were elated beyond words for this opportunity," Rhoads said at his news conference Sunday night.

Rhoads and ISU Athletic Director Jamie Pollard began Sunday's news conference by formally accepting the invitation to the Liberty Bowl over the phone from its executive director Steve Ehrhart.

Iowa State's landing spot for a bowl game greatly depended upon whether Oklahoma received an at-large bid to a BCS bowl.

Even though it was revealed that Northern Illinois' bid to the Orange Bowl would kick Oklahoma out of the BCS and subsequently move every Big 12 team down the pecking order

BOWL.p10 >>

Birth control

'The pill' endorsed over-the-counter

By Leah.Hansen  
@iowastatedaily.com

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommends birth control pills be offered over the counter.

The college is hoping this step would help prevent unplanned pregnancies. More than half of the pregnancies in the United States are unplanned.

There are pros and cons to this decision. Having increased access could offer women a chance to take control of their reproductive health. Women in poverty who cannot afford to go to the doctors would have access to birth control pills. Also, women wouldn't need to schedule a doctor's appointment when their pills are about to run out.

"I feel this is a great option for women, but women will need to take responsibility to be educated on side effects and take [the pills] appropriately," said Reanna Lile, registered nurse at the Birthways unit at the Mary Greeley Medical Center.

However, no one would be required to talk with a doctor about the benefits

and risks of birth control.

"Sometimes we can ask more probing questions than she would think up, so it becomes a dialogue rather than just a list of information," said Greg Yeakel, chief staff pharmacist at the Thielen Student Health Center.

"Over the counter, you miss that [discussion with a pharmacist]. If someone comes in and picks up something, then they're not confronted with it; they're not given the opportunity to access that [advice]. I think it's prudent to do that."

It would be up to the woman to know which brand and dose she needs, what are the side effects, what other medications may interfere with birth control, and any other questions she might have regarding the product.

Critics of the American College's statement are concerned women will not know these without a doctor referral.

"One of my biggest concerns is how would a young woman discern which birth control is right for her, because there are many," Yeakel said.

THE PILL.p10 >>



Courtesy photo

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recently released a statement supporting over-the-counter birth control, despite recognizing the potential danger of self-medication.



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Environment

# ISU team reviews biochar’s effect on plants

By Eric.Debner  
[@iowastatedaily.com](mailto:news@iowastatedaily.com)

Biochar may be a next-generation soil amendment utilized by farmers to increase agricultural productivity.

While this biorenewable solution has potential for commercial use in the near future, there are aspects and variables that could be further explored to improve the capabilities of biochar.

Lori Biederman, adjunct assistant professor of ecology, evolution and organismal biology, and William Harpole, assistant professor of ecology, evolution and organismal biology, received a grant from the ISU-based Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture to experiment and research the effects of biochar on a restored native prairie plant species in Western Iowa. Harpole said the experiment will explore the downstream ecosystem impacts of biochar on native plants and biodiversity.

Biochar is a byproduct of a process called pyrolysis, that essentially turns biomass, such as corn stover and switchgrass, into a renewable source of energy.

Harpole said biochar can be used as an additive to help strengthen soils by adding water retention properties and nutrients such as phosphorus, which helps farmers increase their crop yields.

“Biochar has been promoted as a win-win-win solution,” Harpole said. “You get energy, you improve soil conditions and increase crop yield.”

Harpole said this ideal scenario creates a fourth question: the environment. Is that a win, or is that a loss?

When applied to the landscape, Harpole said biochar is susceptible to erosion and win that can carry it into neighboring ecosystems. Harpole said some studies have shown that up to 50 percent of biochar can be transported away through erosion or wind.

## More info

Biochar is not restricted to one type but has different characteristics and properties reflected by a number of variables that take place during the production process called pyrolysis where biomass is heated to extreme temperatures in the absence of heat.

The biomass feedstock used in the process has an effect on the biochar’s composition and nutritional values, such as phosphorus content. For example, using a biomass feedstock of microalgae will yield a biochar product with different characteristics than corn stover. Production conditions, such as the heating temperatures also play a role in shaping the overall properties of the biochar.

“We have to be careful of protecting our buffers and understanding how biochar affects the perennial systems that are right next door to annual crops,” Biederman said. “[Biochar] blows everywhere, and can very easily end up in places where it was not applied.”

Biederman and Harpole conducted a process called meta analysis in which they collected all the published information on biochar experiments and put it into a data table. Harpole said most of the data showed biochar has, on average, positive effects with plant growth.

“It also points out what we don’t know,” Harpole said. “We don’t have much information about the impacts of [biochar] on downstream ecosystems.”

Harpole said the effects of biochar could play out in a number of ways. If biochar is beneficial for agricultural systems, then it could also benefit natural systems. Harpole said an alternative situation is biochar could negatively affect native plant species but positively affect exotic weedy species.

One aspect of downstream

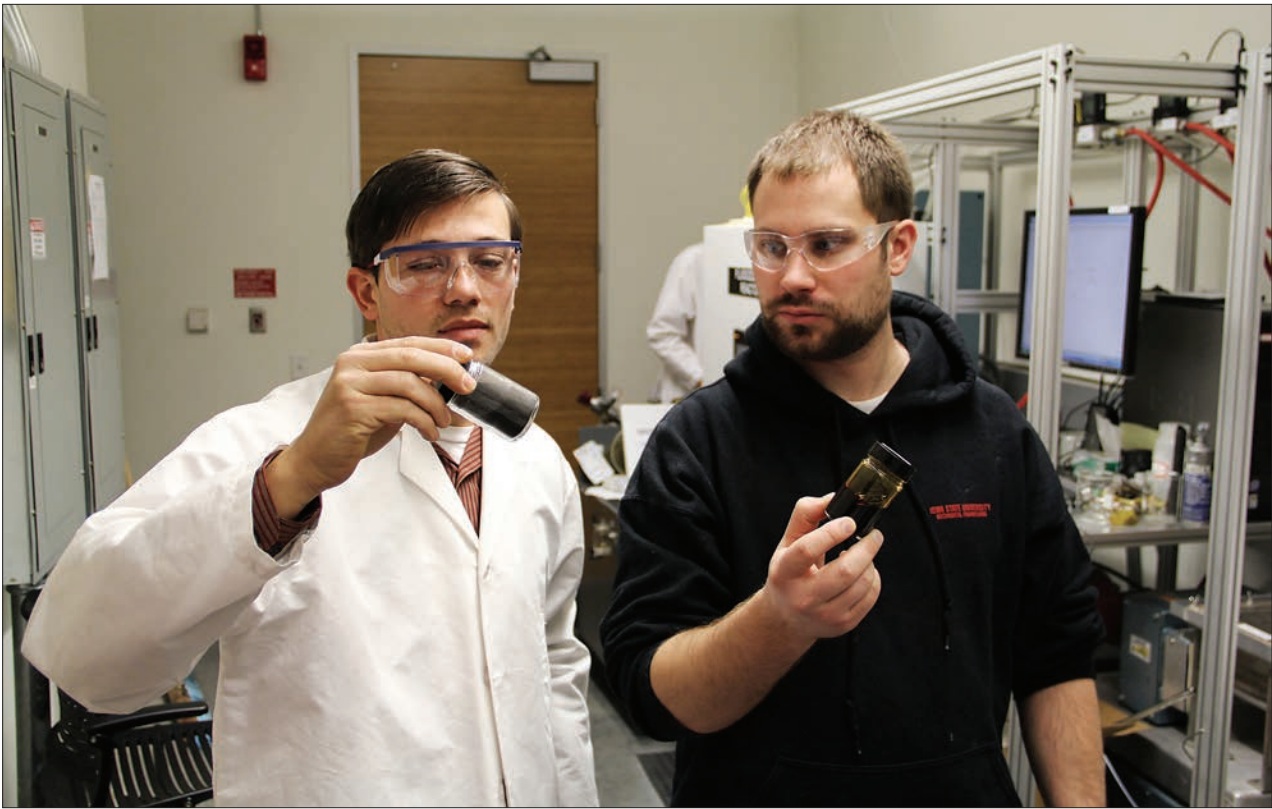


Photo: William Deaton/Iowa State Daily  
**Mechanical engineering graduate students, Bernardo Del Campo, left, and Dustin Dalluge explain the process of biochar, a substance that holds water and nutrients. It provides homes for soil microorganisms, allowing retention of nutrients in the soil.**

ecosystems that Biederman and Harpole want to explore is the effect biochar has on perennial plants compared with annual plants.

Biederman said perennials are plants that persist for many growing seasons while

annuals perform their entire life cycle, from seed to flower to seed, within a single growing season. Biederman said annual plants typically fared better in biochar-treated soils than perennials.

“There’s something about

being a perennial and annual plant that makes them react differently to biochar,” Biederman said.

It is important for researchers to investigate all aspects of biochar before applying it onto the field, to better understand

how biochar affects the perennial systems right next door to annual crops.



“More information helps us make better decisions about how we use our landscape and what we’re trying to conserve and promote,” Harpole said.

# Pregnant?





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Editorial

Respect other library goers, work quietly

Happy Dead Week, fellow Iowa Staters. It's time to buckle down, dust off the textbooks we haven't opened since August, and start praying to some higher being that we will actually pass our classes. However, since it's still early in the week, there's time to get cram sessions in before those fatal finals are administered next week.

Most students have a preferred study spots For some it may be in their room, others in a lounge or coffee shop. But many will claim Parks Library as their studious space of choice. And it is a great one, with many floors which provide space for students to hunker down and get their academic juices flowing. It is located in the heart of campus and has hours of operation that start early and extend into the evening to allow. Most convenient is the cafe on the first floor, fully stocked with snacks, energy drinks and lots of coffee.

Who wouldn't want to study at the library? Actually, we find that question extremely hard to answer, because those who do choose the library as their cramming spot during this week quickly realize how seambursting packed it becomes. It feels like every person on campus chose the library to study. Because of this trend, there are some new guidelines to be set during pack-the-library week.

Simply choosing to study in the library will not automatically make you learn the material faster. If you plan on going there in the hopes that you will feel more motivated than you were the rest of the semester, you are mistaken. You still have to work at studying while there in order to succeed.

With that said, work diligently while taking up space with so many other students. Do not go there because all your friends are going and you plan to sit at one giant table with them all on the second floor and chat all night. Go solo, and go to work. If you do choose a study buddy from one of your classes, and you choose to verbally study, do it quietly and respectfully as to not disturb the many others around you that are working just as hard. Without vigilance, volume can quickly get out of hand and become disruptive.

To those who are trying out the library for the first, or maybe even second, time this week in the hopes of achieving academic success, we wish you all the best. Remember to stay quiet and don't step on the toes of the seasoned veteran library patrons. And to those seasoned veterans, we also wish you luck, and patience to not hurt the new, possibly inconsiderate, study residents.

Editorial Board

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Feedback policy:

The Daily encourages discussion but does not guarantee its publication. We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter or online feedback.

Send your letters to letters@iowastatedaily.com. Letters must include the name(s), phone number(s), majors and/or group affiliation(s) and year in school of the author(s). Phone numbers and addresses will not be published.

Online feedback may be used if first name and last name, major and year in school are included in the post. Feedback posted online is eligible for print in the Iowa State Daily.

Holiday



Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Celebrate spirit of season

Christmas, Advent foster kindness, understanding

Looking around campus, with the Christmas season filling the air, I find myself wondering what matters to other ISU students this time of year. Maybe it's the time they will soon enjoy not buried in various textbooks? Or the time they will soon spend wrapped in the warmth of their own bed? Or the company of their friends and family? But for some, Christmas finds its way into many hearts through the basis of their religious beliefs.

With the upcoming Christmas season already under way, my church is beginning the preparations for the celebration of Advent. Advent is the four Sundays preceding Christmas and usually entails the arrival of a notable person, thing or event. The word itself has Latin roots originating in the meaning of "coming."

Advent is a time for Christian-based churches to remember the first coming of

By Devin Edds  
@iowastatedaily.com

Jesus and to prepare for the second. There are four colors associated with Advent: purple, rose, green and white. Purple represents penitence and fasting, rose represents celebration, green represents the new and everlasting life, and white represents purity.

Alongside colors, two shapes are very prevalent in Advent. These are the circle to represent God's eternity and mercy without a beginning or an end, and the candles to represent the light of God through Jesus.

Each of the four Sundays holds a special meaning in the celebration of Advent. The first is for all Christians to prepare for the second coming of Christ to earth. However, the following Sundays all center around St. John the Baptist. The second Sunday represents St. John asking Jesus if he were the true prophet to have been waiting upon and Jesus proving he was by completing various miracles. The third Sunday represents St. John reminiscing over his unworthiness to even untie Jesus' sandals. The fourth Sunday represents him preaching to the people how they must prepare the path for Jesus to come so that all may see God's salvation.

I, however, personally enjoy Advent because it is a time of unity, celebration, and warm-heartedness among many people from all walks of life. Advent brings members of my church together, as well as many other churches together with mine.

Advent also brings joy and celebration into the hearts of many Christians through the celebration of such a wonderful time in our religious beliefs. Finally, Advent allows an excuse for people to treat others better than they normally would.

The Christmas spirit is allowed to continue the whole month long in a mixture of happiness, peace and an immense amount of caring for others. This is, personally, what I truly enjoy most about the Christmas season.

Devin Edds is a freshman in engineering from Shenandoah, Iowa

Politics

Is straw poll helpful, relevant?

As you know, every four years in August there is an event in Ames where the Iowa Republican party holds a candidate festival that ends in a straw poll, which is a popularity contest to see who can get the most people to support them as the GOP candidate for president.

The poll is not a scientific measure of a candidate's popularity, but it's a fun event that raises money for the Iowa GOP and does test potential GOP candidate's organizational skills.

This year the poll has come under attack from several sources including former Des Moines Register chief political reporter David Yepsen, who has been invited to Ames by the Harkin Institute for Public Policy for a panel on the Iowa caucuses and presidential selection.

The buzz is that in 2011 the Ames Straw Poll was malevolent because former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty's third-place finish ended his campaign. Anyone who thinks that if Pawlenty had won the Ames Straw Poll, he could have beaten Mitt Romney or Rick Santorum in the Iowa caucuses, won primaries in the South and gotten the GOP nomination is delusional.

Those who argue that the Ames Straw Poll "prolongs the campaign" by starting the presidential candidacy chase too early have overlooked an important fact. The race for the White House starts about three days after we elect a president!

In 2012, it started when Florida Sen. Marco Rubio came to give the keynote at Gov. Terry Branstad's birthday party just a few weeks after



By Steffen Schmidt  
guest columnist

Romney lost. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie started running for president when he thanked Barack Obama for disaster aid, thereby distracting the country from Romney's bid for the White House and showing that bipartisan cooperation, not divisive attack politics, is a big hit with voters. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush started jockeying for 2016 when he ... well, you get the idea.

The Ames Straw Poll is actually not too bad in propelling Republicans forward.

In 1979, George Bush won and went on to become U.S. president. In 1987, Bob Dole came in second but four years later won the GOP nomination for president. In 1999, George Bush won the Poll, proceeded to get the nomination and became president of the United States. In 2007 Mitt Romney won and four years later Romney became the GOP nominee for president. I say that's a remarkably good record for the Ames Straw Poll tagging top GOP contenders for the White House.

As I've pointed out in several opinion pieces and interviews, it is very dangerous to talk about how well the AmesStraw Poll picks the GOP nominee and candidate for that year.

The reason is that reporters then begin to ask, and I have had many ask me since the Ames Straw Poll story broke, how well



File photo: Iowa State Daily

Republicans register during the 2011 Ames Straw Poll on Aug. 13 at the Iowa State Center. The straw poll has recently come under attack.

the Iowa caucuses predict who will be the GOP candidate or who will become president.

The answer is that the caucuses are also not a very good predictor.

In 2012, Santorum won by a few votes (25 percent), and Romney came in second (25 percent,) followed by Ron Paul (21 percent).

In 2008 – Mike Huckabee won the caucuses (34 percent), followed by Romney (25 percent), a tie between Fred Thompson (13 percent) and John McCain (13 percent). McCain went on to get the GOP nomination.

In 1988, Bob Dole won (37 percent), followed by Pat Robertson (25 percent), George H. W. Bush (19 percent), Jack Kemp (11 percent), and Pete DuPont (7 percent). Neither Dole nor Robertson got the nomination, and it was No. 3 Bush who got the nomination and won the White House.

In 1980, George H. W. Bush

won (32 percent), while Ronald Reagan came in second (30 percent), Howard Baker (15 percent). Reagan went on to get the GOP nomination and win the White House.

I don't mind that neither the Ames Straw Poll nor the caucuses are precisely accurate. They are excellent barometers of who Iowans think are top GOP contenders for the White House. These events help candidates test their organizational skills, give them visibility, and help the party shape its national message by testing it in Iowa and right after that in New Hampshire.

Both the Ames Straw Poll and the caucuses are a great start to the national political season. They make for a nice story and have become a national tradition. I say we should make them work even better.

Steffen Schmidt is a university professor of political science.





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SCOREBOARD:

	vs.	
Volleyball (Fri.) final		
N. Carolina		2
15 Iowa State		3

SCOREBOARD:

	vs.	
MBB (Sat.) final		
BYU		64
Iowa State		83

SCOREBOARD:

	vs.	
Wrestling (Sat) final		
Iowa State		3
3 Iowa		32

SCOREBOARD:

	vs.	
Hockey (Sat) final		
C. Oklahoma		2
Iowa State		3

FOOTBALL:

Iowa State  
lands Campos

Iowa State has landed four-star recruit Jake Campos, an offensive lineman from West Des Moines Valley High School who decommitted from Missouri. Campos had received offers from Oklahoma, Kansas State and Iowa. Campos committed to Iowa State on Saturday after meeting with ISU coach Paul Rhoads following the men's basketball team's win against BYU.

-Daily staff

FOOTBALL:

AP Top 25

1. Notre Dame (12-0)
2. Alabama (12-1)
3. Ohio State (12-0)
4. Florida (11-1)
5. Oregon (11-1)
6. Georgia (11-2)
7. Kansas State (11-1)
8. Stanford (11- 2)
9. LSU (10-2)
10. Texas A&M (10-2)
11. South Carolina (10-2)
12. Oklahoma (10-2)
13. Florida State (11-2)
14. Clemson (10-2)
15. Oregon State (9-3)
16. Northern Illinois (12-1)
17. UCLA (9-4)
18. Utah State (10-2)
19. Michigan (8-4)
20. Boise State (10-2)
21. Northwestern (9-3)
22. Louisville (10-2)
23. Nebraska (10-3)
24. San Jose State (10-2)
25. Kent State (11-2)

SPORTS JARGON:

Reversal

**SPORT:** Wrestling

**DEFINITION:** When the wrestler in the top position loses control and is causally taken control of to result in two points for the opposing wrestler.

**USE:** Bobby Telford secured a reversal against Matt Gibson to win at heavyweight.

Volleyball



Photo: Shane Tully/Iowa State Daily

Tenisha Matlock and Victoria Hurtt block the ball against North Carolina on Friday at Hilton Coliseum. The Cyclones won 3-2 to advance to the Sweet 16.

Cyclones fight on to Sweet 16

By Alex.Halsted  
@iwastatedaily.com

Oh, how sweet it was. On a night that was deja vu for the ISU volleyball team, it was able to survive a five-set match and advance to the Sweet 16 for the fifth time in six seasons. Akin to the first-round match the previous night, No. 15-seeded Iowa State (22-7, 13-3 Big 12) struggled in the second and third sets against North Carolina (26-6, 16-4 ACC) on Friday. For the second consecutive night, the team had its back against the wall.

“Even though we weren’t playing well and it looked like everything was going North Carolina’s way, I think we all had a sense of faith,” said ISU coach Christy Johnson-Lynch. The Cyclones jumped out to an early lead in the match by winning the first set. As was the case against I-P Fort Wayne in the opening round, however, Iowa State looked out-of-sorts in the next two sets. The Cyclones fell behind 7-2 in the second set and were unfortunately unable to rebound. Out of intermission, the Tarheels also controlled the third set, tallying five of their 14 blocks in that set alone to take a 2-1 lead.

Next Step

The ISU volleyball team has made the NCAA tournament in seven of coach Christy Johnson-Lynch’s eight seasons at Iowa State. It has now advanced to at least the Sweet 16 five times. That streak is a complete turnaround from what Johnson-Lynch encountered when she arrived. Before Johnson-Lynch, Iowa State hadn’t won 20 matches since 1995 and six times won fewer than 10 matches. Now in the Sweet 16 yet again, the team hopes to take the next step. “I feel like we are at least now on the cusp of elite,” Johnson-Lynch said. “I want more; we want more. We want to be elite, we want to be Penn State, we want to be Stanford. “We’re not in that league yet because those people have won national championships. We have things we’ve yet to do.” The Cyclones will have the opportunity to beat Stanford on Friday as the two teams will meet in the Sweet 16 matchup in Berkeley, Calif.

On the brink of elimination, Iowa State would need a drastic turnaround and two straight-set victories. “I felt like, ‘We’re going to win,’” Johnson-Lynch said. “I felt like if we could get to that fifth game, we’ve got it — not that I wasn’t very nervous or stressed out.” In the fourth set, the team witnessed a little bit of Hilton Magic as a ball landed just inside the line and a last-second dig floated right over the net. Trailing 10-9 the Cyclones went on a 9-0 run and never looked back,

forcing an exciting match-deciding fifth set. The run was fueled in part by middle blocker Tenisha Matlock, who recorded two of her career-high four solo blocks during the team’s fourth-set run. “Christy helped me this week and reminded me to be dynamic in everything I do,” Matlock said. “Just trying to be solid.” As the teams switched sides with the Cyclones leading 8-7 in the fifth set, fans chanted “Cyclone Power!” and rose to their feet. Neither team

ever led by more than two points in the decisive set, and a double-hit violation against the Tarheels on the final play pushed the Cyclones to a 15-13 victory. For a few seconds, there was uncertainty. Then, celebration. “We were kind of hoping and praying they’d call it,” said libero Kristen Hahn, who had 28 digs. “You just kind of look at each other like ‘Oh my goodness, this actually happened.’ “Then it sinks in.” The loss stung for North Carolina as it was eliminated from postseason play. “The way the match was, it was probably a little anti-climactic to me,” said UNC coach Joe Sagula. “I think it would have been better for someone to get a great kill. It would have be much, much more in tune with the way the match was played and respectful to both teams.” The ISU win pushed the team to a program-record 12-match winning streak. The team, in its seventh NCAA tournament in eight seasons with Johnson-Lynch, continues to reach for more. “It’s a fun, fun night when you see all those fans getting so excited about [ISU] volleyball,” Johnson-Lynch said. “We’re getting there, but we still have some work to do.”

Cyclones tested in NCAA tournament

By Dylan.Montz  
@iwastatedaily.com

In a night that was similar to the previous, Iowa State once again had to weather a storm in the second and third sets of its victory against North Carolina on Friday night. The No. 15-seeded Cyclones (22-7, 13-3 Big 12) defeated the Tar Heels (26-6, 16-4 ACC) in five sets (25-22, 18-25, 23-25, 25-16, 15-13) on Friday night at Hilton Coliseum to earn a berth in the Sweet 16. The win against North Carolina also gave Iowa State its 12th consecutive win, a school record. Getting that win, however, proved to be easier said than done as productivity in the second set waned for the Cyclones. Iowa State’s hitting percentage went from .277 in the first set to .121 while being blocked five times. “It looked pretty dismal there for a while in a sense; you could tell even the body language they were trying to be positive but for a while there it was feeling like, we’re trying but it’s just not happening,” said ISU coach Christy Johnson-Lynch. “Our team just hung in there and kind of weathered that storm until we could kind of get it going again.” Johnson-Lynch saw Iowa State’s effort, even in the sets lost, as a “really gutsy performance by the Cyclones.” In the second set, North Carolina was able to jump out to a 7-2 lead and not look back.

UNC coach Joe Sagula felt the key to his team jumping out to a controlling lead in that set was its ability to halt ISU attacks at the net with blocks. “Both Kayla Berringer and obviously Chaniel Nelson just got hot,” Sagula said. “They did a good job on our right side. I thought we served a little bit tougher and it made it a little more difficult for Iowa State to score some points. We knew they were going to do a good job getting the ball to their middles and we slowed that down a little bit but they came back and did a really good job.” Outside hitter Rachel Hockaday knew going into the match that North Carolina was a good team and that there were many problems that seemed to hit Iowa State in a variety of different ways all at once in set two. “They’re a very good defensive team,” Hockaday said. “We knew going in that we had to play a tough match to win. I think partly it was [their defensive effort], but partly it was a little internal. We were making some errors that we normally don’t make and just weren’t being totally ourselves.”

**Freshmen gain valuable tournament experience** On a night where Iowa State’s back seemed to be against the wall, Johnson-Lynch felt confident relying on the bench for contribution.

With middle blocker Jamie Straube still hampered by an ankle injury she suffered against I-P Fort Wayne on Thursday night, redshirt freshman middle blocker Tory Knuth took her place in the lineup mid-way through the second set against North Carolina. Knuth responded very well to the high-pressure situation, earning seven kills and a .545 hitting percentage with two block assists and two solo blocks. “I think one of my favorite things in the world is when players come off the bench and perform under pressure,” Johnson-Lynch said. “There’s not much more pressure than what Tory had to experience tonight but she’s done it all season. That was kind of the expectation. She’s come in several times throughout the season and always had a nice impact.” It is the time of year when depth is important on any roster. If Iowa State is to make a deep tournament run, it will have to continue to utilize that depth that Libero Kristen Hahn believes is a valuable experience not just for Knuth, but all of the freshmen. “I remember my freshman year having just a little bit of experience and how far that takes you,” Hahn said. “Especially these huge games. We had freshmen playing these huge games. Next year, that’s going to be so helpful. They’re coming up big time and that’s huge; couldn’t ask for more.”

Wrestling

Cyclones compete close at times in lopsided loss

By Dan.Cole  
@iwastatedaily.com

IOWA CITY, Iowa — The unfortunate outcome of Saturday night’s Cy-Hawk wrestling matchup was accurately predicted by many individuals. The No. 4 Hawkeyes (6-0) lived up to the hype as they defeated the Cyclones (0-2) by a final score of 32-3. “We just want [Cyclone fans]

to realize that it’s a season, it’s a long season,” said ISU coach Kevin Jackson. “We’re two matches in and we’re 0-2, so obviously we’re not feeling good about it. But we wrestle again in a couple weeks and we’ll keep pushing forward.” Cyclone wrestlers declined comment after the meet. While the scoreboard indicates a one-sided meet, a number of ISU



Photo: Huiling Wu/Iowa State Daily

Matt Gibson loses control as Bobby Telford gets a reversal in the third period of a match in Iowa State’s 32-3 loss to Iowa on Saturday.

CY-HAWK.p6 >>



Basketball

Scoring at Will: Clyburn leads Iowa State to victory

By Dean.Berhow-Goll  
@iowastatedaily.com

BYU is tired of Will Clyburn.

In the first half alone, Clyburn scored an impressive 22 points on only 10 shots. He hit four of his five 3-pointers and made four of his five free throws.

Clyburn cooled off in the second half, making only two of his six shots. However, he still finished with a career-high 32 points, five rebounds, two blocks and two steals in the 83-62 win against BYU.

“Will was terrific,” said BYU coach Dave Rose. “The one thing that he’s really good at is he’s never in a hurry. He just plays at a great pace with great confidence and he was on tonight.”

When Clyburn was at Utah, he played against BYU twice. In his first meeting on Jan. 11, he scored 23 points while grabbing four rebounds and shot 7-16 from the field. A month later at BYU, Clyburn scored another 18 points.

In his three career games against BYU, Clyburn has an average of 24.7 points per game.

“[Clyburn] had a special game,” Hoiberg said. “We ran some different actions to try and get him going. We felt that [Clyburn] could go out there and really attack. I thought that was a big step he took in the last game against UNLV, was to the basket and making good decisions when he got in there.”

Percy Gibson played a season-high 27 minutes in relief for Anthony Booker, who was in foul trouble early in both halves.

Gibson finished with seven points and seven rebounds, but his biggest contribution was on the defensive end as he was charged with the task of guarding the All-WCC post Brandon Davies. Davies came into the game averaging almost 19 points and eight rebounds per game.

Davies did finish with 20 points, but they came on a game-high 17 shot attempts.

“[Gibson] was great — he really did a good job building a wall against Davies and Davies is going to be as good as a post player as we play against all year,” Hoiberg said. “He is an absolute load in there. To go out there and do the job that he did, 27 minutes against a very good post player shows the growth of Percy Gibson.”

Chris Babb showcased his defensive ability Saturday afternoon as well, tasked with guarding the WCC’s top scorer in Tyler Haws, who came in averaging 22.6 points per game.

Babb chased Haws all over the floor, holding him to his season-low nine points, making only four of 13 shots and forcing five turnovers.

“We had a chance to watch a lot of film on him and we felt very prepared going into this game,” Babb said. “We just wanted him to make him catch it a little bit farther out than he wants to and contest all of his

Melvin Ejim

Ejim’s key contributions:

Melvin Ejim isn’t the flashiest player on the ISU men’s basketball team, but he does continue to fill up the stats sheet seemingly unnoticed.

Ejim added another solid game to his resume Saturday against BYU with 13 points and eight rebounds, four of which were on the offensive end. He also had two assists, one block and one steal.

Ejim is the Cyclones’ third-leading scorer with 10.6 points per game, while also leading the team in rebounds with 8.9 per game.

“[Ejim] did what [Ejim] always does,” said coach Fred Hoiberg. “Four offensive rebounds, making hustle plays that lead to baskets. A lot of times those plays don’t show up on the stat sheet.”

shots.”

After two losses to ranked opponents the previous weekend and a tough week of practice, Hoiberg said he was pleased with what he saw from his team today, in all aspects of the game, including what Hoiberg called the “hustle plays.”

“We executed our game plan very well today,” Hoiberg said. “That’s something that you always want your team to do. We really got after them this week and they responded. I’m really proud of these guys after today’s effort.”



Photo: Blake Lanser/Iowa State Daily  
Will Clyburn averts the distraction of his BYU opponent, Brock Zylstra, during the game Saturday at Hilton Coliseum. The Cyclones beat the Cougars with a score of 83-62.

>>CY-HAWK.p5

wrestlers challenged their opponents to the very last seconds of their matches. However, they failed to score the crucial points that would have given the team a better chance in the meet.

Jackson cited several individuals that gave themselves a chance to win.

“I think I got some guys that I can

live with their performance tonight,” Jackson said. “I got some guys that there’s going to be some hurt feelings here in a few minutes. But it is what it is; we just have to continue to grind and get better.”

Redshirt senior Matt Gibson (heavyweight) held the lead for the majority of his match, but then ended up losing 3-2 to Bobby Telford, who secured a reversal late in the final period to secure the victory.

Telford is ranked No. 5 at 285 pounds by Intermat.

At 141 pounds, redshirt sophomore Luke Goettl also competed very closely with his opponent for the entirety of his match against No. 13 Mark Ballweg. Ultimately, Goettl lacked the necessary offensive effort, falling in a 4-1 contest to Ballweg.

Redshirt sophomore Michael Moreno (165) took his match with Iowa sophomore Nick Moore down

to the final seconds but failed to score before the clock ran out and lost by a 3-2 decision.

Continuing to build on his successful return from a shoulder injury, redshirt sophomore Kyven Gadson defeated Iowa freshman Nathan Burak by a 5-4 decision at 197 pounds. Being the only victory, it meant a lot to the Cyclones.

“I think [Gadson] is pretty stingy, and you’ve got to work hard when a

guy’s stingy,” said Iowa coach Tom Brands. “I feel like we left points off the board in individual matches; consequently, we left points off the board [as a team].

Gadson may have been the lone Cyclone to win his match Saturday night, but the effort shown by several of his other teammates proves that this is only the beginning of the wrestling season and improvement is on its way.



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# Style

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## HEAD TO TOE

# PRETTY AND PUT TOGETHER IN A PINCH

By Catherine Calistro  
*ISD Style Writer*

For college students, there aren't enough hours in a day to check off everything on a "to do" list, and as a result we clock too many late nights followed by early mornings. The scenario is all too familiar: You set the alarm with the intent of working out, showering and grabbing a coffee all before your first class, but when morning comes, the snooze button gets hit one or seven times too many and you are left with barely any time to get ready. Don't let mornings like this leave you trying to take on the day in sweats looking like your brushed your hair with an egg beater. It is still possible to get up and out the door looking pretty and put together in 15 minutes or less.

### TINTED MOISTURIZER:

Head into the bathroom and splash cold water on your face. Cold water gets the blood flowing and the temperature shock will make you more alert. Pat your face dry and reach for the tinted moisturizer. Tinted moisturizer kills two birds with one stone: It acts as a face lotion as well as a light foundation. Apply with a make-up sponge over your entire face. Tinted moisturizer evens out skin tone and helps hide blemishes, leaving your skin with a dewy glow.  
**Product Recommendation:** NARS - Pure Radiant Tinted Moisturizer Broad Spectrum SPF 30 \$42.00

### CONCEALER:

Say goodbye to those dark circles under your eyes, and let me introduce you to your new best friend: concealer. Gently apply concealer to the inner corner under the eye near the side of your nose and dab outwards.  
**Product Recommendation:** Almay Smart Shade Concealer (of the Revlon Smart Shade Conc Collection.) \$7.74

### MASCARA:

Using an eyelash curler will make you look significantly more awake and make your eyes pop. Tip: Blast the eyelash curler with your hair dryer for three to five seconds. The heat will help hold the curl. Be sure to test that the temperature of the curler isn't too warm on the back of your hand before using. Follow up with a couple coats of mascara, start with the wand at the base of your lashes and swipe upward. L'Oreal's Voluminous False Fiber Lash Mascara is the best kept secret in the beauty aisles—it lengthens lashes as well as volumizes like no other mascara we've tried. The best part is that it can be found at Target, Walmart and mostly every other pharmacy.  
**Product Recommendations:** Sally Hansen - Beauty Tools Sexy Curls Deluxe Metal Eyelash Curler \$7.49



Photo courtesy of Victoria's Secret

**Does your daily routine feel like a fashion show production? Learn how to cut back on your preparation time in the morning, but still look like you spent hours on your look.**



Photo courtesy of Brandy Melville

L'Oreal - Voluminous False Fiber Lash Mascara \$8.99

### BRONZER/BLUSH:

Lightly sweep bronzer from the apples of your cheeks along your cheekbone to your temple. Blush can serve as an alternative to bronzer or an additional step. Either way, lightly add blush to the just the apples of your cheeks to avoid looking clown-like.  
**Product Recommendation:** BareMinerals - READY Bronzer \$24.00

### HAIR:

When time is of the essence, straightening or curling your hair is out the question. If quickly brushing through your hair just doesn't cut it, twist your hair up in a high ballerina bun or a classic side-braid if you have a few minutes to spare. Both hairstyles are simple while looking classier than a ponytail.

### OUTFIT:

In the midst of fall, a long sweater or a cute cardigan will effortlessly make your outfit come together. Choosing slim-fitting bottoms like leggings gives you significantly more options when picking out a top.  
**Product Recommendation:** Brandy Melville - Sweater \$49.00

Every girl should own a couple pairs of leggings as they have become a wardrobe staple. There is a wide variety of leggings on the market ranging in material, color and print. Leggings are a great option when you're in a rush because they are simple yet add the feminine flare that sweatpants lack.  
**Product Recommendations:** American Eagle - High-Waisted Leggings \$15.95  
J-Crew - Pixie Pant Leggings \$88.00

### BOOTS:

Mixing and matching black and browns is no longer a fashion faux pas! So the debate whether or not the boots "go" with the rest of your outfit is over. Aim for flat or wedged boots when you're in a hurry, especially on campus.  
**Product Recommendation:** Hunter - Herringbone wool rain boots \$295.00  
Steve Madden - Zorrba Combat Boots \$79.95

### ACCESSORIES:

Now, for the finishing touches. Add a scarf that complements one of the colors already in your ensemble. I recommend an infinity scarf, especially when in a time crunch. Infinity scarves are also known as circle scarves, and can be wrapped around your neck a couple times. They are hassle-free as the one continuous strip of fabric makes it impossible to wear wrong. A scarf can add a pop of color to your outfit or tie together your whole look.  
**Product Recommendation:** Brandy Melville - Reese Scarves \$14.00-\$30.00

A little sparkle goes a long way. Adding a piece of jewelry for your final touch really spices it up. Earrings are great addition, especially when your hair is pulled back. Stud earrings achieve simple elegance without looking like you're trying too hard. As a bonus, we've found that men, like raccoons, are attracted to shiny things. Incorporating a little glitz and glam will leave guys enamored and girls envious while never suspecting you got ready in only 20 minutes.  
**Product Recommendation:** Brighton-Twinkle Large Post Earrings (of the Twinkle Trio Collection) \$22.00

## FASHION

# PASTELS PAST SPRING

By Michelle Boettcher  
*ISD Style Writer*

Pastels have long been considered a staple in a spring wardrobe, but as the seasons change, they tend to get shoved towards the back of the closet. However, this coming winter, pastels have earned a place in our wardrobes year round. The question is, how do you continue this trend without looking like you have dressed for the wrong season? Not to worry, we know the rules of wearing pastels throughout these next few chilly months!

### DO'S AND DON'TS

- Do pair your pastels with a neutral. Neutrals will make the pastel the focus and make it acceptable to wear in the fall and winter. Try pairing your favorite coral pants from last spring with brown boots and a comfy oversized oatmeal-colored sweater.
- Do mix those bright hues

with traditional fall and winter colors. If you are going to combine pastels with other colors, try to do it with darker colors, like mint green with darker hues of blues and greens.

- Do be aware that these colors may wash you out as even the most stylish tend to get paler in the winter. If a pastel on top tends to make you lose your color, swipe on a little bronzer to liven up your complexion or try printed pieces that combine your trendy pastels with darker colors. Alternatively, try switching around your outfit by wearing pastel colored pants or accessorizing with them instead.
- Don't try to wear many pastels at once. You will run the risk of looking like all the colors on an Easter egg in the winter months, which is a hard look for anyone to pull off, especially if it hasn't even hit Valentine's Day yet. Pink, mint and blue are a bold look this time of year, but if you wear them in the right way, you can rock them year-round.



Photo courtesy of Nordstrom

## MODELING



Photo: Ethan Crane / Iowa State Daily

**Abigail Smith gets hopeful-model Tanya Schaaf's measurements as part of the model screening for Iowa State's spring fashion show Nov. 28 in Lebaron Hall.**

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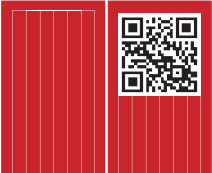
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# Fun & Games

Unplug, decompress and relax ...

## Fun Facts

In the 1980s, a product called Vision-Dieter glasses promised to curb your appetite by making food look unappealing.

In New Jersey and Oregon, pumping your own gas is illegal. These states banned self-service out of fear that untrained consumers might light themselves on fire. The laws are surprisingly popular with citizens; any mention of their repeal has been met with fervent opposition.

The U.S. hockey team did not defeat the USSR in the gold medal game of the 1980 Olympics. The so-called “Miracle on Ice” was actually a semi-final game, and the Americans had to play Finland for the gold.

The Orange River in southern Africa isn’t named for the fruit or the color; it’s named for the Dutch royal family who sent explorers to “discover” the area.

Mock turtle soup does not actually contain turtle. Its main ingredient is an entire cow’s head.

The ubiquitous garden earthworm is not indigenous to the U.S. They came over in the mud, on the boots, and on the roots of the crops that colonists brought over.

When business was slow in the early days of the Boeing Company, they had their woodworkers make furniture.

## Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20							21			22				
23						24								25
26					27	28		29			30			
				31				32			33			
	34	35						36	37	38				
39								40						
41					42	43	44		45			46	47	48
49			50					51			52	53		
	54								55					
56						57			58					
59						60					61			
62						63						64		

**Across**

- 1 Mascara recipient  
5 Lie in store for  
10 Naval jail  
14 \_\_\_ rug  
15 Swiss capital, to the Swiss  
16 One and only  
17 Hollywood  
19 "My great hope \_\_\_ laugh as much as I cry": Angelou  
20 Impressive property  
21 Dugout leader  
23 Mattress make  
24 Outdoor seating option  
26 Airport screening org.  
27 WC  
29 Italian three  
30 "Stop-\_\_\_": UGK hit  
31 Classic theater name  
33 Ignore socially  
34 Festive centerpiece adorned with the starts 17-, 24-, 49- and  
57 -Across  
39 Big cat's cry  
40 Ballet bends

- 41 Flightless Aussie bird  
42 Pickle's place  
45 Computer application file extension  
46 CBS-owned cable movie sta.  
49 All the details, casually  
52 Group of eight  
54 Not taking sides  
55 Pointed abode  
56 Gets hitched  
57 Venezuelan natural wonder  
59 \_\_\_ above the rest  
60 Just right  
61 Flower-loving buzzers  
62 Peeps from pups  
63 Pub game  
64 Miss in Mex.

**Down**

- 1 Most current news, with "the"  
2 Crops up  
3 Nissan compact  
4 Assaults

- 5 Blessed with skills  
6 \_\_\_ behind the ears  
7 Yummy smell  
8 Needing, with "of"  
9 Sawbuck, to a Brit  
10 HMS Bounty's ill-fated captain  
11 '80s-'90s wisecracking TV mom  
12 Cloak-and-dagger doings  
13 Former Prizm maker  
18 And others, in bibliographies  
22 Unhittable serve  
24 Crotchety oldest  
25 Stick up  
28 Drinks in the a.m.  
31 "I need a sweater!"  
32 Baseball arbiter  
33 Yearbook gp.  
34 Five-time Olympic gold winner Nadia  
35 Called to account  
36 "Jeopardy!" host Trebek  
37 Common dinner hour  
38 Make really mad  
39 Civil War soldier  
42 Write quickly  
43 Frightened  
44 Central African country about the size of Massachusetts  
46 Less fresh  
47 "To be, or not to be" speaker  
48 Ukrainian port  
50 Thirsts (for)  
51 Alleged Soviet spy Hiss  
53 "Deadliest Catch" boatful  
55 "\_\_\_ fair in love ..."  
56 Technique  
58 "Dig in!"

**Friday's solution**

A	P	O	P	E	S		R	I	G	A		D	E	C	I
A	N	E	A	R		A	C	E	S		O	M	A	N	
P	A	R	O	T		F	I	S	H		R	A	N	G	
A	R	I	L		R	E	E	S		B	S	I	D	E	
Y	O	O		M	I	R	R	O	R	B	A	L	L	S	
A	L	D	E	N	S					A	L	L	S	E	
S	L	I	G	O		W	O	L	F						
					C	O	P	Y	E	D	I	T	O	R	S
					A	T	O	Z		W	R	E	S	T	
F	S	H	A	R	P					V	E	S	P	A	S
A	P	E	C	O	S	T	U	M	E	S		A	R	E	
M	I	N	T	Y		O	L	A	N		D	R	A	T	
I	N	N	O		M	O	C	K	T	R	I	A	L	S	
N	A	A	N		T	R	E	E		E	S	T	E	E	
E	L	S	E		M	A	R	S		I	C	E	E	S	

## Sudoku *by the Mephram Group*

1		2		4		5		
	3				7		8	
5			6					2
	7	4		2				
8								5
				9		7	4	
3					5			7
	1		8				6	
		8		7		3		1

**Friday's Solution**

3	7	6	9	1	5	4	8	2
1	8	9	2	4	7	3	6	5
5	2	4	8	3	6	7	1	9
2	1	3	5	7	8	9	4	6
4	9	5	1	6	2	8	3	7
7	6	8	3	9	4	2	5	1
8	3	1	6	2	9	5	7	4
6	4	2	7	5	3	1	9	8
9	5	7	4	8	1	6	2	3

LEVEL: **1** 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

## Horoscope *by Linda C. Black*

**Today's Birthday**

(12/03/12)  
This year you may savor quiet introspection more than before. Balance freedom with responsibility to make the difference you're intending. Romance and social life captivates before June 25. Then career builds to a new level. Focus on health. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries**

(March 21-April 19)  
**Today is a 9** -- Listen to the competition. You'll soon have time to relax. Study the practical aspects, and come up with a brilliant scheme. Ask for more and get it.

**Taurus**

(April 20-May 20)  
**Today is a 9** -- Have the party at your house. Friends help you make a solid connection. The way you did it before won't work. Move quickly without rocking the boat.

**Gemini**

(May 21-June 20)  
**Today is a 7** -- Your mood changes dramatically. You're even smarter than usual for the next few days. The very idea you were looking for appears from afar. Use imagination, not money.

**Cancer**

(June 21-July 22)  
**Today is a 7** -- You're entering a two-day profitable phase and can afford a home upgrade. Get down to bare essentials: simple and comfortable. Outside obligations interfere with private time.

**Leo**

(July 23-Aug. 22)  
**Today is a 9** -- Expand your resources. Life's easier and you're more confident for the next few days. You can afford to fix things. If there's a roadblock, meditate. Entertain suggestions.

**Virgo**

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
**Today is a 6** -- You see your creative path clearly as you enter an intuitive phase. Review plans. Take a page from your partner's book. Discipline is required. Get your antiques appraised.

**Libra**

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
**Today is a 9** -- There's a zinger in your work environment. You may have trouble getting through to someone. Associates provide deeper insight. Spend a little. Limit travel for now.

**Scorpio**

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
**Today is an 8** -- Attend to

career goals today and tomorrow. Anticipate disagreement, and keep at it. Bring playfulness to work, and let your thoughts settle. Stay out of the way.

**Sagittarius**

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
**Today is a 7** -- Miracles could be possible. Travel is not a good idea, but do make contact. Read the manual, and study a technical subject. Call upon experts.

**Capricorn**

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
**Today is an 8** -- Organize your finances today and tomorrow. You get a boost from friends and your partner, who all want your attention. Don't start the new project yet.

**Aquarius**

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
**Today is an 8** -- Consider all possibilities, and entertain suggestions. It's a good time to ask for money. Study takes priority over regular chores. Let another represent you. Discover romance today and tomorrow.

**Pisces**

(Feb. 19-March 20)  
**Today is a 7** -- There's too much work. Listen to both sides of a controversy. Allow the process to unfold. Put your partner in charge.

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>>BOWL.p1

of conference bowls, ISU Athletic Director Jamie Pollard said he and his staff started planning for alternatives earlier that week.

“We knew there was a potential that the Big 12 would end up having one team up, so good business is to make sure you’ve got a contingency plan,” Pollard said. “Coach Rhoads and I looked at the landscape and found out that the Liberty Bowl was going to be available because of the SEC tie-in.

“We jumped all over it and spent the last week working Steve [Ehrhart] very hard on why Iowa State should be in the Liberty Bowl if that comes up.”

Pollard said Iowa State received a ticket allotment of 10,000 for the Liberty Bowl with each ticket priced at \$55 apiece. A ticket subsidy is in place for students for \$25 apiece.

Any unsold tickets will be absorbed with

the cost being footed by the school itself, as is the case with any bowl game.

Iowa State (6-6, 3-6 Big 12) will be facing Tulsa for the second time this season. Tulsa (10-3, 7-1 C-USA), won the Conference USA title after beating Central Florida 33-27 in overtime. In the season opener, Iowa State defeated Tulsa 38-23.

“I think it’s good [to face Tulsa again], but at the same time it’s a bowl game,” said senior linebacker Jake Knott. “I can tell you last year, Rutgers came out with stuff that we had never seen before.”

When Knott received season-ending shoulder surgery, Rhoads said there was a chance that he could return in time for the bowl game. However, Rhoads said Sunday night that Knott will not play Dec. 31.

Iowa State and Tulsa kick off at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 31, at Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium in Memphis, Tenn.



Photo: Huiling Wu/Iowa State Daily  
**Coach Paul Rhoads answers questions at a press conference on Sunday at the Jacobson Athletic Building. Iowa State will be playing in the Liberty Bowl on Dec. 31, in Memphis, Tenn.**

>>THE PILL.p1

If a company decides it would like its product offered over the counter, it’s not a sudden occurrence. Each individual company must take a proposal to the government and have it passed.

“It’s not going to happen anytime soon, but if someone wants to pursue this we could see it in three to four years,” Yeakel said.

With the new Affordable Care Act under President Barack Obama, birth control would be covered by insurance — if it’s a prescription medicine.

If birth control is sold over the counter, it would not be covered. So while there are several advantages to over the counter birth control, there are also many negatives which should be equally weighted.

“In the past, when medicines went over the counter, insurance companies [stopped covering the medicines],” Yeakel said.

>>VEHICLES.p1

for the university’s liability for damages that occur during travel, but I see this as shifting liability onto individual students,” Knight said.

“Instead of using safer vehicles and registering

travel with the [Office of Risk Management], students will use their personal, often older vehicles, and be completely liable for anything that happens.”

Currently, university vehicles are covered by liability through the state of Iowa, but

the university is looking into commercial auto coverage for their vehicles they rent out to students.

GSB has also looked into the possibility of purchasing an insurance plan for organizations when using a university vehicle.

“After reviewing the use of vehicles and the Tort System, we want to provide the best liability practice for our students,” Sunstrom said.

Sunstrom also said the Office of Risk Management had been discussing these changes for the past two years

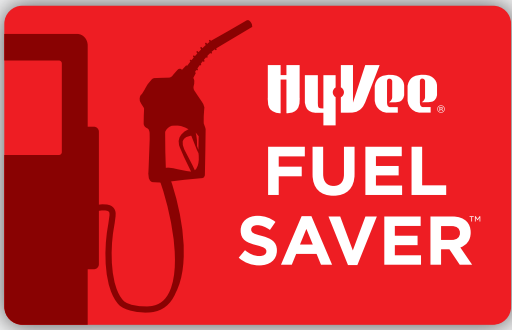
and has been analyzing the types of travel and what the implications would be.

The office is also looking to receive a quote for a supplemental insurance plan by the end of this week that would help alleviate some of the issues.



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A large, elegant red ribbon bow is the central focus, with a sparkling diamond ring placed in its center. The background is a light gray with a subtle, repeating floral or damask pattern.

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